

- Commercial and Agro-forestry should be covered by the new law.
- Working Plans should be given legal status.
- Forest officers should be given more/direct policing powers.
- The new forest law must take into account India's International obligations as ratified under International Conventions.
- Training of frontline staff such as forest guards, who are the key personnel for enforcement of law.

(d) The recommendations have been sent to the Committee constituted by the Ministry for finalisation of the Draft Forest Bill.

Wheat Buyers

3735. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

- (a) whether free sale of wheat by the Food Corporation of India is made in bulk to the private large scale buyers;
- (b) if so, the details of main ten buyers;
- (c) whether the sale in small packets of 5 kg and 10 Kg to the consumers has been suggested; and
- (d) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic), quantitative restrictions for issue of wheat have been prescribed per buyer per month, from time to time. However, these restrictions were not applicable for issue of wheat from CAP storage under this scheme upto September, 1996 and part of November, 1996.

Since the period for which this information is sought has not been indicated, it is not possible to give the same.

(c) and (d) While reviewing supply position of wheat and wheat products in Delhi, a scheme was made effective from 9.12.96 for distribution of wholemeal Agmark wheat atta in 10 Kg. packs in Delhi through the outlets of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar at a fixed price of Rs. 64/- per pack. Food Secretaries of all States/Union Territories were also requested on 9.12.96 to introduce similar scheme(s) to make wholemeal atta readily available to the consumers at large. Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and National

Consumers Cooperative Federation retail outlets were authorised to sell wheat purchased from F.C.I. in ten Kg. bags.

[Translation]

Incident of Smuggling and Intrusion

3736. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of incidents of smuggling and intrusion reported during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents; and
- (c) the progress made with regard to the construction of security belt on the border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per information of the Border Security Force deployed on the borders the Statewise details of smuggling and infiltration during the last three years are given in the Statement-I attached.

(b) Following steps have been/are being taken :

- (i) Additional Bns. have been sanctioned and deployed under expansion plan to reduce the gaps between the BOPs.
- (ii) Patrolling/Nakas have been increased/intensified.
- (iii) Border patrolling have been intensified by providing jeeps and motor cycles.
- (iv) Mounted patrolling on horses, camels and tractors is being done.
- (v) Observation Post Towers have been erected.
- (vi) Binoculars, Goggles, Twin Telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
- (vii) Border fence and flood lights has been/being done.
- (viii) Intelligence machinery has been alerted to keep closer vigilance.
- (ix) Coast Guard/Indian Navy is patrolling the coastal areas.
- (x) The matter has also been taken up with the Governments of Bangladesh and Pakistan on various occasions.

(c) A Statement-II is enclosed.

Statement-I*Details of Smuggling and Infiltration*

	1994		1995		1996	
	Smuggling of Contraband (Rs. in crs.)	Infiltration	Smuggling of Contraband (Rs. in crs.)	Infiltration	Smuggling of Contraband (Rs. in crs.)	Infiltration
Indo-Pak Border						
Jammu (IB)	11.17	515	27.70	985	1.95	815
Punjab	20.08	1938	34.27	728	1.20	166
Rajasthan	100.55	3255	6.69	1662	2.65	1053
Gujarat	1.35	63	0.29	72	0.22	232
Total	133.15	5771	68.95	3447	6.02	2266
Indo-Bangladesh Border						
West Bengal	31.42	17665	66.96	13215	32.07	10323
Assam	2.33	396	2.32	391	3.80	391
Meghalaya	1.41	364	2.51	440	1.59	529
Mizoram	0.07	14	0.02	17	0.01	14
Tripura	5.76	1649	5.07	951	6.39	896
Total	40.99	20088	76.88	15014	43.86	12153
Indo-Burma Border						
Manipur	3.19	365	1.80	105	1.09	36
Nagaland	0.05	1	—	5	0.02	7
Total	3.24	366	1.80	110	1.11	43

Statement-II*Progress with Regard to Erection of Fencing/Flood Lighting on Western and Eastern Border***Indo-Pak Border**

The present situation regarding fencing/flood lighting on Indo-Pak border is as under:—

Punjab

In Punjab, fencing/flood lighting work of 451 kms/465 Kms was started in May, 1988 and completed in November,

1993. The entire border, except certain gaps which could not be taken up due to being riverine/low lying area, was fenced/flood lit.

Rajasthan

Out of total border of 1035 Kms fencing/flood lighting has been completed in 720 Kms/739 kms. Further, fencing/flood lighting along 312.60 Kms in Jaisalmer sector has also been sanctioned. 145 kms of this will be completed in phase IV by 31.12.1997, 131 Kms in Phase V by 31.12.1998 and remaining in Phase VI by 31.12.1999.

Jammu

The Scheme for fencing/flood lighting of 180 Kms/ 195.80 Kms International Border in Jammu Sector was approved in March, 1995 and the work was taken up but the same had to be stopped in July, 1995 due to heavy firing from the Pakistan side. The matter regarding restarting of the fencing work is under active consideration of the Government but no time schedule has been finalised.

Fencing on Eastern Border

*Progress of Border Fencing upto
28th February, 1997*

	Sanctioned	Completed	Yet to be Completed (distance in Kms)
West Bengal	507.000	356.180	150.82
Assam	158.000	125.540	32.460
Meghalaya	231.000	170.710	60.290

Committee on Agriculture

3737. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Government had set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to give suggestions for increasing the agricultural production in the country;

(b) whether the Committee has presented its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the date on which and the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the action plan of the Government to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A Committee of Experts had been constituted on 21st August, 1996 which was re-constituted on the 15th October, 1996, under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to suggest ways and means for increasing the productivity in less productive areas.

(b) to (d) The Committee has not yet submitted its final report. However, Part Report No. 1 in respect of North Eastern Region has been submitted on 15th February, 1997.

Irregularities in NAFED

3738. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a departmental inquiry conducted by his ministry has held NAFED management guilty of irregularities in setting up a Rs. one crore waxing grading plant for kinoo and malta at Maulgarh in Punjab;

(b) if so, the nature of these irregularities;

(c) whether the departmental inquiry has also found NAFED guilty of committing irregularities in the supply of 6,000 tonne of pulses to Army Purchase Organisation (APO) in 1995 by passing the norms for inviting bids;

(d) whether the inquiry panel also found irregularities involving lakhs of rupees in payment of hotel bills of VIPs and wage bills of attendants attached to these VIPs;

(e) whether NAFED was also guilty of giving liberal donations, expensive gifts to certain persons, irregularity in the release of advertisements and inflated travelling allowances of directors; and

(f) if so, the action taken against the NAFED management and remedial measures taken to prevent such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e) On receipt of some complaints, an enquiry was instituted into the alleged irregularities in the matters of, *inter alia*, supplying pulses to Army Purchase Organisation, expenses on payment of hotels bills, wage bills, donation and gifts to certain persons, irregularities in the release of advertisements and expenses on members of the Board of Directors by way of travelling allowances etc.

The Inquiry report is still awaited.

(f) A suitable course of action will be decided upon receipt of the inquiry report.

Infiltration in Uttar Pradesh

3739. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the number of infiltration in the Meerut and Muzzaffar Nagar districts of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;